

REMARKS

The Final Office Action of July 3, 2003 has been carefully considered and reviewed. Claims 1, 3-13, and 15-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 1, 5-8, 13, 17-20, and 25-27 were rejected as being unpatentable over Hamrick in view of Nelson. Claims 3-4 and 15-16 were rejected as being patentable over Hamrick in view of Nelson and in further view of Dahlen.

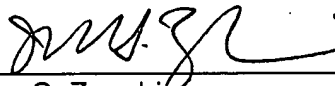
Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview on October 7, 2003. The differences between the present invention and the applied references were discussed. In particular, claim 1 was discussed. It was understood that the present invention, as discussed, relates to a novel method and system of providing electronic mail messages to subscribers via their telephone, in the form of an audio message. Hamrick, Nelson and Dahlen were discussed. It was agreed that Hamrick discloses text-to-speech preprocessing and conversion of a caller's ID in a telephone but fails to teach or suggest at least the processing and conversion of electronic mail messages into audio messages. It was also agreed that Nelson relates to an electronic mail delivery system for wireless subscribers, but fails to teach or suggest at least "comparing information in the electronic mail message to the handling instructions stored in the network element for the subscriber." It was proposed that claim 1 should be amended to clarify the invention. To that end, claims 1, 3-13, and 15-27 have been cancelled, and new claims 28-51 have been added (these are the same claims as presented in the Amendment After Final). None of the other references alone, or in combination, teach or suggest the claimed invention.

The new claims incorporate the differences between the present invention and the cited references. Accordingly, the amended claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of the claim amendments and a notice of allowance of claims 28-51 is respectfully requested.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, please contact John S. Zanghi at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

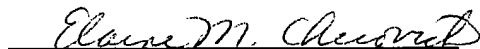
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Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** in connection with **Application Serial No. 09/516,267** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Dec. 1,, 2003.



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